

W. Bowley.

W. Bowley III.

IN THE LEFT.



BOROUGH OF LEIGH



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

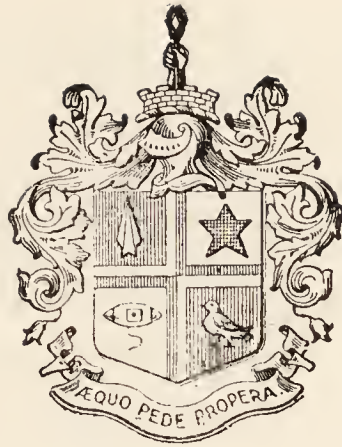
Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1936

W. AULAY McLENNAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



BOROUGH OF LEIGH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1936

W. AULAY McLENNAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF LEIGH, 1936.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Councillor T. R. GREENOUGH, J.P.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor W. SEDDON

THE MAYOR (Councillor W. MORGAN, J.P.)

Ald. W. Collier, J.P.	Coun. H. Gough
„ N. Fairhurst, J.P.	„ T. Haseldine
„ W. Grundy, J.P.	„ J. Horrocks, J.P.
„ W. Higenbottam, J.P.	„ T. Hourigan
„ W. Hindley, J.P.	„ T. Lowe, J.P.
Coun. T. Battersby	„ J. L. Prescott, J.P.
„ S. Leadbetter	„ R. Starkie, J.P.
„ P. Gaskell	

MATERNITY, CHILD WELFARE AND SCHOOL CLINICS COMMITTEE :

Chairman :

Councillor W. KEARNEY

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor T. LOWE, J.P.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Councillor W. MORGAN, J.P.)

Ald. J. Ashworth, M.B.E., J.P.	Councillor T. Hourigan
Alderman N. Fairhurst, J.P.	Councillor S. Leadbetter
Councillor T. Gerrard	Councillor J. Parr
Councillor H. Gough	Councillor J. L. Prescott, J.P.
Councillor T. R. Greenough, J.P.	Councillor R. Starkie, J.P.

Co-opted Members :

The Mayoress (Mrs. Morgan)

Mrs. Betton	Mr. R. Ratcliffe
Mrs. Fairclough	Mr. H. Warburton
Mrs. Lowe	

STAFF :

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

W. AULAY McLENNAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer :

V. J. WOODWARD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under Canal Boats Acts, Rat Officer :

A. N. NICKLIN, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat & Food Inspection

District Sanitary Inspectors :

F. BURGIN, Cert., S.I.B..

H. CLUSKY, Cert, S.I.B.

T. HAILWOOD, Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Food Inspection

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

Miss A. B. BELYEA

Miss L. M. GOULDEN

Miss A. M. BOYDELL

Miss C. A. SMITH

Mrs. FOSTER (Resigned 21st Feb., 1937) Miss M. SMITH

Senior Clerk : S. CUNNINGHAM.

Clerk-Typist : Miss H. M. DIXON (Appointed April, 1937)

Clerk-Typist : Miss H. MULROONEY

Clerk-Typist : Miss H. SARGENT (Resigned 22nd Jan., 1937)

Junior Clerk : H. BURROW

Veterinary Surgeon : J. HOLT, M.R.C.V.S.

MATERNITY HOME STAFF :

Matron : Miss S. J. STOREY

Sister : Miss K. FORSHAW (Resigned 26th Jan., 1937)

Staff Nurses : Miss B. M. O'GRADY (Appointed Sister, May, 1937)

„ S. P. JOHNSON (Resigned 11th June, 1936)

„ L. ALLAN (Resigned 13th March, 1937)

„ A. M. BOARDMAN

„ M. BARKER (Appointed 24th July, 1936)

„ L. BARNES „ „



Public Health and School Medical Department,
Town Hall,
Leigh,

30th June, 1937

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I present to you my Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1936. The lateness of its publication is again largely due to the late arrival of the local statistics supplied by the Registrar-General.

The health of the inhabitants has been satisfactory on the whole, although the incidence of infectious disease, notably diphtheria, has again been higher than the previous year.

The birth-rate has decreased somewhat from the previous year, and the death rate is slightly higher than in 1935.

Four deaths of mothers were attributed to childbirth compared with six during 1935.

The work of the department continues to be increased. Fresh legislation in the form of the Midwives Act, 1936, will bring the Midwifery Service increasingly under the control of the Local Supervising Authority, and enhanced co-ordination with the other great preventive services will be assured.

A new branch welfare centre was opened at the end of the year, and is already proving of enormous benefit to the inhabitants of the east end of the town.

The activity of the department in dealing with unfit houses continues, and a large amount of reconditioning of houses by informal action has been carried out.

I desire to put on record my thanks to the Staff of the department for their energetical co-operation at all times, and to the Voluntary Workers at the Welfare Centre for their ready assistance.


The Matron and Staff of the Maternity Home are worthy of commendation for the admirable work done under exceptional conditions.

My thanks are also due to the Chairmen and Members of the Committees for their interest and support.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. AULAY McLENNAN.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29726888>

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Part I. Statistics and Social Conditions	9
Part II. General Provision of Health Services	19
Part III. Sanitary Circumstances	27
Part IV. Housing	41
Part V. Inspection and Supervision of Food	53
Part VI. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases	61
Part VII. Maternity and Child Welfare	75



PART I

STATISTICS

AND

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Borough covers an area of 6359 acres.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population at mid-year 1936, was 45,540, which is an increase of 300 on his estimated figure for mid-year 1935, which was 45,240. In this connection it is interesting to note that the population of the Borough at the Census of 1931 was 45,317. The density of population per acre is 7.16.

Population (Census 1921)	....	....	....	....	45,532
„ (Census 1931)	....	....	....	....	45,317
„ (Registrar-General's estimate, 1932)					45,460
„ („ „ „ 1933)					45,190
„ („ „ „ 1934)					45,420
„ („ „ „ 1935)					45,240
„ („ „ „ 1936)					45,540

The number of inhabited houses in the town at the end of 1936 according to the Rate Books was 13,100. The rateable value is £230,719 and the sum represented by a penny rate £840.

The following table shows estimated population, the number of inhabited houses and the average number of persons per house for the years given.

	<i>Population.</i>	<i>No. of Inhabited Houses.</i>	<i>Average per house.</i>
1921	45,532	9,401	4.95
1931	45,317	11,051	4.14
1932	45,460	11,137	4.08
1933	45,190	11,600	3.89
1934	45,420	11,792	3.91
1935	45,240	12,211	3.7
1936	45,540	13,100	3.4

At 31st December, 1936 the Corporation owned 2,297 houses, and more were in course of erection.

The inhabitants are largely of the working class, coal mining employing the largest number of any single occupation. This is closely followed by textile workers. Overcrowding exists and adversely affects family life.

The percentage of insured persons unemployed in January, 1936 was 20.2, and in December, 1936, was 13.3 per cent.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

	Total.	Male.	Female.	
Live Births	Legitimate ...	571 ..	309 ...	262
	Illegitimate ...	15 ...	7 ...	8
	Total	586	316	270
Still-births ...	...	44	19	25
Deaths ...	...	610	315	295
				Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 12.8
				Rate per 1000 total (live and still-births) births ... 69
				Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 13.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :		Rate per 1000 total live and still births
	Deaths	
Puerperal Sepsis.....	Nil	
Other puerperal Causes.....	4	
Total.....	4	6.34

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births.....	80
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	77
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	200
Deaths from Cancer (all ages).....	60
Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	6
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).....	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

It will be observed that there has occurred a further fall in the Birth Rate, the number of births being 586, compared with 619 last year.

The crude death rate is 13.3 per thousand of the estimated resident population, but when this is corrected and adjusted by making allowance for the age and sex distribution of the population, it becomes comparable with the death rate of the country as a whole, or with the death rate of any other area. This standardised death rate, as it is then termed, is 15.8 per 1,000 estimated population for Leigh Borough.

The following table shows, for comparative purposes, the figures for 1936, for 1935, and the mean of the five years 1931 — 1935.

	Per 1000 estimated population.				Rate of Deaths under 1 yr per 1000 live births
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Respirat'y Tub'cul's	Death Rate from Cancer	
Mean of 5 years — 1931 — 1935.....	14.5	12.6	.48	1.30	79
1935	13.6	12.9	.44	1.19	80
1936	12.8	13.3	.48	1.31	80
Increase or decrease in 1936 on 5 years Average 1931 - 1935.	—1.7	+0.7	Nil	+ 0.01	+1
Increase or decrease in 1936 on 1935.	—0.8	+0.4	+0.04	+ 0.12	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1936.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Typhoid fever, etc.....	—	—	—
2. Measles.....	4	2	6
3. Scarlet fever.....	—	1	1
4. Whooping Cough.....	—	1	1
5. Diphtheria.....	7	7	14
6. Influenza.....	12	5	17
7. Encephalitis Lethargica.....	—	2	2
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	—	—	—
9. Respiratory tuberculosis.....	16	6	22
10. Other tuberculosis.....	2	4	6
11. Syphilis.....	—	2	2
12. General paralysis of insane, etc.....	—	1	1
13. Cancer.....	25	35	60
14. Diabetes.....	4	3	7
15. Cerebral haemorrhage.....	27	36	63
16. Heart disease.....	51	58	109
17. Aneurysm.....	3	—	3
18. Other circulatory diseases.....	23	12	35
19. Bronchitis.....	22	15	37
20. Pneumonia.....	30	17	47
21. Other respiratory diseases.....	1	5	6
22. Peptic ulcer.....	2	2	4
23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years).....	—	—	—
24. Appendicitis.....	2	—	2
25. Cirrhosis of liver	2	—	2
26. Other liver diseases.....	2	1	3
27. Other digestive diseases	7	6	13
28. Nephritis.....	9	13	22
29. Puerperal sepsis.....	—	—	—
30. Other puerperal causes.....	—	4	4
31. Congenital causes, etc.....	18	10	28
32. Senility.....	13	20	33
33. Suicide.....	5	2	7
34. Other violence.....	12	6	18
35. Other defined causes.....	12	16	28
36. Ill defined causes.....	4	3	7
TOTALS	315	295	610

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1936.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 total population.		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population.								Rate per 1,000 Births.	
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
Leigh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
England and Wales	12.8	0.96	15.8	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.02	0.02	0.31	0.55	0.00	80
122 Great Towns, including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000)	14.8	0.61	12.1	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.05	0.07	0.52	5.9	59
143 Smaller Towns (1931 Adjusted Populations 25,000—50,000)	14.9	0.67	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.09	0.01	0.06	0.08	0.45	8.2	63
London	15.0	0.64	11.5	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.39	3.4	55
	13.6	0.53	12.5	0.01	0.00	0.14	0.01	0.06	0.05	0.52	14.4	66

The following table gives the chief causes of death :—

Causes of death	Males	Females	Total	% of total deaths
Heart disease.....	51	58	109	17.9
Cerebral haemorrhage.....	27	36	63	10.3
Cancer.....	25	35	60	9.8
Pneumonia.....	30	17	47	7.7
Bronchitis.....	22	15	37	6.1
Other circulatory diseases.....	23	12	35	5.7
Senility	13	20	33	5.4
Congenital Debility.....	18	10	28	4.6
Premature Births.....				
Congenital Malformations.....				
Nephritis.....	9	13	22	3.6
Respiratory tuberculosis.....	16	6	22	3.6

It will be observed that Heart disease has been responsible for 17.9 per cent of deaths, and Cerebral Haemorrhage for 10.3 per cent. Cancer comes third with 9.8 per cent, and Pneumonia fourth with 7.7 per cent. Cancer has been responsible for six more deaths this year with a greater incidence among females and a lesser incidence among males.

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age which occurred during the year was 47, giving a rate per 1,000 live births of 80. The rate is the same as that of 1935 when 50 deaths of infants occurred but the total number of births has declined.

Of the infant deaths, 28 could be ascribed to congenital causes such as prematurity, congenital weakness and congenital malformations.

Eighteen (38 per cent.) infant deaths occurred during the first week of life, twenty-nine (61.7 per cent.) during the first month of life, and thirty-eight (80 per cent.) during the first six months.

The following table shows the causes of infant deaths.

Cause of Death	From Birth to 1 month (neo-natal deaths)	From 1 month to 12 months	Total Infant Deaths
1. Gastro-intestinal infective disease (enteritis, diarrhoea, etc.).....	—	—	—
2. Specific Infectious Diseases.....	1	2	3
3. Other Infective Conditions. Broncho-pneumonia, Bronchitis etc.....	2	11	13
4. Non-Infective Conditions.....	1	—	1
5. Congenital Malformations (Spina bifida, meningocele, etc.)	8	3	11
6. Obstetrical Injuries.....	—	—	—
7. Serious Accidents.....	1	1	2
8. Unknown Causes Prematurity	11	1	12
Other conditions.....	5	—	5
	29	18	47

There occurred four maternal deaths during the year, all being ascribed to puerperal causes other than sepsis. There were no deaths from puerperal sepsis.

The causes of death were certified as follows :—

Pulmonary Embolism.....	2
Obstetric Shock.....	1
Peritonitis following Ruptured Uterus and Caesar- ian Section.....	1

Three of the deaths occurred at home, and the remaining one at the Infirmary. The circumstances of all the deaths were investigated by the Medical Officer of Health, and a full report on each sent to the Maternal Mortality Committee of the Ministry of Health.

The total puerperal mortality rate for 1936 for Leigh is 6.34 per 1,000 total (live and still) births, and the corresponding figure for England and Wales for 1936 is 3.65 per 1,000 total births.

PART II.

GENERAL PROVISION
OF
HEALTH SERVICES.

1.—PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Office Held</i>
William Aulay	M.B., Ch.B. (Glas.)	Medical Officer of Health
McLennan	D.P.H. (Vict.). Cert. in School Hygiene. Cert. in Factory Hygiene (Vict.)	School Medical Officer. Medical Officer, Maternity Home. Medical Supervisor of Midwives.
Vivian J. Woodward	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Liv.)	Assist. Medical Officer of Health. Assist. School Medical Officer.
Miss A. M. Paterson	L.D.S. (Vict.)	School Dental Officer.
Arthur N. Nicklin	Cert. R. San. I. Cert. Meat & Food Inspection	Senior Sanitary Inspector. Inspector under Housing Acts. Inspector of Canal Boats. Rat Officer. Inspec- tor under Shops Acts.
Frank Burgin	Cert. S.I.B.	District Sanitary Inspector. Inspector under Housing Acts. Inspector under Shops Acts.
Harry Clusky	Cert. S.I.B.	do.
Thomas Hailwood	Cert. S.I.B. Cert. Meat and Food Inspection	do.
Amy B. Belyea	Certified Midwife. Cert. R.S.I.	Health Visitor. School Nurse. Infant Life Pro- tection Visitor.
Alice M. Boydell	State Registered Nurse. Certified Midwife. Cert. Q.V.J.I.	do.
Janet Foster	Trained Nurse.	do.
(Res. 21st Feb. 1937)	Certified Midwife.	
Lily M. Goulden	State Registered Nurse. Certified Midwife.	do.
Constance A. Smith.	State Registered Nurse. Fever Training	do.
Mary Smith.	Certified Midwife.	do.

The Clerical Staff consists of :

Sydney Cunningham, <i>Senior Clerk</i> ;	Hilda M. Dixon <i>Clerk-typist</i> (Appointed April, 1937)
Harry Burrow, <i>Junior Clerk</i> .	Helen Mulrooney, <i>Clerk-typist</i> ; Hilda Sargent ,, ,, (Resigned 22nd Jan., 1937)

They are engaged jointly in Health, Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical Work.

MATERNITY HOME STAFF.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Office Held</i>
S. J. Storey.	Trained Nurse Certified Midwife.	Matron, Maternity Home.
K. Forshaw.	do.	Sister, Maternity Home. resigned : 22nd January, 1937
B. M. O'Grady	do.	Staff Nurse, Maternity H. appointed Sister : 18th May, 1937
L. Allen	do.	Staff Nurse, Maternity H. resigned : 13th March, 1937
A. M. Boardman	do.	Staff Nurse, Maternity H.
M. Barker	do.	do.
L. Barnes	do.	do.

SPECIALIST AND CONSULTANT OFFICERS.

F. Pearce Sturm.	M.D., M.Ch. (Aberd.)	Aural & Operative Surgeon
K. V. Bailey	M.D., Ch.B. (Vict.) M.R.C.P.	Obstetric & Puerperal Fever Consultant.
James Holt	M.R.C.V.S.	Veterinary Surgeon.
<hr/>		
Mrs. Dickinson.	Trained Nurse.	Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia Nurse.

2. LABORATORY ARRANGEMENTS.

Bacteriological examinations are done by the Pathological Department of Wigan Royal Infirmary, and the arrangements are satisfactory. A telephonic communication in the case of positive results is made to this department and to the medical practitioner concerned. A report on every examination is made to the Medical Officer.

EXAMINATIONS MADE DURING 1936

	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>	<i>Total</i>
Throat Swabs.....	48	295	343
Sputum.....	3	4	7
Blood Test.....	—	3	3
Faeces.....	—	2	2
Vaginal.....	—	1	1
Urine.....	—	1	1

Diphtheria antitoxin and swabs are supplied by the Corporation, and general practitioners are encouraged to keep several swabs in their possession, and at least one phial of antitoxic serum. Stress is laid on the early administration of antiserum even in doubtful cases.

Sputa from cases or suspected cases of tuberculosis are generally sent for examination by the Tuberculosis Officer.

Water samples are submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination to Manchester University Public Health Laboratory.

3.—AMBULANCE ARRANGEMENTS.

(a) For non-infectious and accident cases. Four motor ambulances are provided by the Local Authority and are housed at the Fire Station. Residents are removed free within the borough and to a distance up to 15 miles, if being conveyed to a Hospital, Infirmary or Nursing Home. The service is satisfactory in all respects.

(b) Maternity cases, excepting puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia cases, are removed in the motor ambulances of the Corporation.

(c) Infectious cases are removed to the Isolation Hospital, at Astley, by the ambulances of the Leigh Joint Hospital Board. These are housed at the Isolation Hospital.

4.—NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) *General*.—This is chiefly provided by the local nursing association which employs three nurses. They do not nurse infectious disease, nor do they act as midwives, nor maternity nurses. They attend patients on the request of the medical practitioners.

(b) *Infectious Disease*.—The Health Nurses give assistance in the home nursing of cases of measles and whooping-cough. Their services are sought by general practitioners in cases of ophthalmia neonatorum, and by frequent visiting and attention and by giving preference to these cases they render signal service. When the nursing of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia is done in the home, the services of a special nurse are employed.

(c) *Maternity*. — Maternity nursing in the home is done by midwives in independent practice. Notice of intention to practise during 1936 was given by 18 midwives, apart from those on the staffs of institutions.

5.—CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(a) *Child Welfare Centres. :*

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Day and Hour</i>	<i>In attendance</i>
Stone House St. Helens Rd.	Mon. 2—4 p.m. Weekly.	Medical Officer, 2 Health Nurses, Voluntary helper : Mrs. Hindley.
Coal Pit Lane Westleigh.	Wed. 2—3.30 p.m. Weekly.	Assist. Med. Officer. Nurse M. Smith. Voluntary helper : Mrs. Corrie.
Nangreaves St. Firs Lane.	Wed. 2—3.30 p.m. Weekly.	Assist. Medical Officer, Nurse Goulden. Voluntary helper : Mrs. Fishwick
Chapel Street. Boundary Street.	Thurs. 2—4 p.m. Weekly.	Medical Officer, Health Nurse, Voluntary Helpers : Mrs. McLennan. Mrs. Cunningham.

(b) *Pre-natal & Post-natal clinics*

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Day and Hour</i>	<i>In attendance</i>
Stone House, St. Helen's Rd.	Mon. 2—4 p.m. Weekly.	Asst. Medical Officer. Health Nurse.
Maternity Home. Firs Lane.	Wed. 3.30—5 p.m. Weekly.	Asst. Medical Officer. Matron of Home.

(c) *School Clinics*

Minor ailments clinics are held at each of the four centres every morning. The dental Clinic at Stone House is open daily. An Inspection clinic is held weekly at Stone House. Among special clinics there are an Artificial Sunlight Clinic twice weekly at Stone House, an Ophthalmic Clinic weekly, an Aural Clinic weekly and an Operative Clinic which is held weekly if necessary. An Anti-diphtheria Immunization Clinic is held weekly or as often as required.

(d) *Tuberculosis Dispensary*

The Tuberculosis Service is under the Control of the Lancashire County Council, and the dispensary at 13 Church Street is open on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m., and on the second Thursday of each month at 6.30 p.m. for patients who are working.

(e) *Orthopaedic Clinic*

The Lancashire County Council Orthopaedic Clinic at Tyldesley is available for use for borough cases. Facilities for prolonged hospital treatment are available at the County Orthopaedic Hospital at Biddulph, and for short period indoor treatment at Ancoats Hospital, Manchester.

6.—HOSPITALS. PUBLIC and VOLUNTARY.

The Municipal Maternity Home has eighteen beds for Maternity cases ; at Leigh Infirmary there are three beds for Maternity cases, and six beds are available at the Public Assistance Institution, just outside the borough boundary.

The only voluntary hospital in the borough area is the Leigh Infirmary. Accommodation for children is available, there being 24 beds or cots. Children are also sent to the Manchester Children's Hospital.

The Local Authority has no arrangement with any hospital, but contributes freely to the Manchester & Salford hospitals and the local infirmary.



PART III

SANITARY
CIRCUMSTANCES.



1.—WATER SUPPLY.

This is derived from the Liverpool Corporation's Water Works at Rivington. There is a service reservoir at Westhoughton which can hold one day's supply. The water is satisfactory in quality and in quantity.

During the year samples of water were taken for Bacteriological and Chemical Examination as shown in the following tables.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Address	Source of supply	Result of Examination		
		Bacillus coli found in	Bacillus coli not found in	Probable No. of Bacillus coli per 100 c.c.
Kay House Farm	Well	1 c.c.	$\frac{1}{10}$ c.c.	80
Irlam House Farm	Well	1 c.c.	$\frac{1}{10}$ c.c.	250
Robertshaw Street....	House tap	—	100 c.c.	Nil

The supplies to Kay House and Irlam House are unsuitable for drinking purposes. Kay House Farm has been furnished with a supply of Town's Water from the mains of the Tyldesley U.D.C. by arrangement. Irlam House Farm has been scheduled for demolition and appropriate action will be taken under the Housing Act, 1936 in due course.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS.

	Kay House Farm.	Irlam House Farm.
Source of supply	Well	Well
Colour	Green	Brownish yellow
Turbidity	Slight	Slight
Smell	None	None
Oxygen Absorbed	0.073	0.322
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0032	0.0058
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0084	0.0240
Nitrous Nitrogen	nil	marked
Nitric Nitrogen	0.069	0.731
Chlorides	3.5	5.7
Hardness {	Temporary	23.4
	Permanent	2.6
	Total	26.0
Reaction, p.H.	8.0	6.5—7.0
Action on Lead	0.16	0.8
Metals	nil	Iron—trace
Result of Examination	Unsatisfactory for drinking purposes	Unsatisfactory for drinking purposes

Water Supply to Farms in Landside Area.

I have previously reported that action has been taken with regard to the unsatisfactory supply of water in this area.

At Yates' Farm the water from the newly bored well has been both bacteriologically and chemically examined and is not satisfactory for drinking purposes owing to the large amount of dissolved iron salts it contains.

Negotiations are now in progress with a view to the provision of a water supply from a main supply.

With regard to Willow Cottages, Closes Farm House and Cottage, and Colliers Farm House appropriate action will be taken under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1936 to secure their demolition. The owners have arrived at the decision to surrender the premises rather than go to what they consider to be an unreasonable expense in providing

water and in reconditioning. No farm land is attached to the premises mentioned. Double Cop Farm House has already been demolished. The remaining houses, viz., Arrowsmiths Farm House, Colliers Tenement Farm House, Dean's Farm House, and Yew Tree Farm House are in various ownerships and protracted negotiations, with a view to the provision of a satisfactory supply of water, have been necessary. Agreement has now been reached and the work will shortly commence.

2.—DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The relatively flat nature of the district makes the sewerage problem a difficult one. Only the minimum permissible amount of fall can be given to the sewers and in exceptional downfalls of rain there is occasionally in parts of the town a failure on the part of the sewers, with consequent flooding. Mining subsidence also affects the sewerage system. The sewage is treated by the Leigh and Atherton Joint Sewerage Board, by means of bacterial filter beds. The effluent is satisfactory.

3.—RIVERS AND STREAMS

The district is drained by the river Glaze and its tributaries, all running in a southerly direction and emptying into the Manchester Ship Canal. All the streams are very tortuous, and the water slow running. Coal-mining subsidence has further interfered with the flow. The effect of the work of straightening and deepening the streams carried out during the last two years by the Drainage Board and continued by the South Lancashire Rivers Catchment Board, is already apparent in the diminution of flooding of the low-lying parts.

The portion of the Bedford Brook, from the Bridgewater Canal to the Borough Boundary at Orchard Lane has now been added to the "Main River."

The condition of the streams is carefully watched and any pollution is brought to the notice of the Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee. No such occasion has arisen during the year.

4.—CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. (Dwelling Houses).

Water closets have now been provided to all houses where a water-supply and sewer exist. There are still a large number of waste water closets in the borough. However, one of these was converted to a fresh water closet during the year.

Fresh water closets.....	12,128
Waste Water Closets.....	787
Privies (No water supply nor sewer).....	65
Pail closets (No water supply nor sewer)	9

During 1936	During 1931-35
----------------	-------------------

Number of privy closets	{	To fresh W.C.'s.....	—	4
		To waste W.C.'s.....	—	—
		To pails, etc.....	—	2
Number of pail closets.	{	To fresh W.C.'s.....	—	—
		To waste W.C.'s.....	—	—
Number of waste W.C.'s to fresh W.C.'s.....		1	54	
Number of houses, at which movable Ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles.....		—	443	

Street scavenging, and the collection and disposal of house refuse are undertaken by the Cleansing Committee, and I am indebted to the Cleansing Superintendent for the following figures.

Number of movable Ashbins.....	13,750
Number of dry Ashpits (excluding middens)...	3,667
<hr/>	
Ashbins emptied.....	685,750
Ashpits emptied.....	179
Refuse dealt with at Destructor.....	710 tons
Refuse delivered to tips.....	10,618 tons

Dry house refuse is collected by horsedrawn containers (Pagefield System), and refuse from earth closets and privies by motor wagon. Dry house refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping and the refuse from privies by incineration. Cesspools are cleansed by motor gully emptier, and their contents distributed on farm land.

(a) **Summary of Inspections.**

In connection with Infectious Diseases	(a) Primary	....	359
	(b) Re-visits	....	59
Slaughter-houses	....	....	1432
Piggeries	....	....	67
Dairies and Cowsheds	....	....	152
Milk Shops	....	....	53
Bakehouses	....	....	118
Common Lodging-houses	....	....	11
Houses let in lodgings	....	....	35
Vans and Tents	....	....	49

Houses inspected :—

Defects or Nuisances found.

Notices Served.

Result.

Number of Defects dealt with	....	....	....	....	5960
„ „ „ abated after statutory notice				....	525
„ „ „ „ „ informal notice	....			....	5435

7.—SHOPS.

During the year 144 primary inspections and re-inspections were made. In one case, notice was served to provide additional ventilation, in six cases notices were served to provide suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences, and in four cases notices were served to provide suitable and sufficient washing facilities. At the end of the year all the notices had been complied with.

8.—SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There are approximately forty-seven factory and works chimneys in the area, and during the year 70 observations have been made of these. Each observation was of half an hour's duration.

According to a local bye-law the emission of black smoke from a chimney other than that of a dwelling-house for a period of more than 2 minutes in the aggregate within any continuous half hour is deemed to be a nuisance.

On 19 occasions chimneys were observed to emit smoke of such a character and density and during such a period, as to be a nuisance. In all these instances informal notices were sent to the offenders. Subsequent observations of the offending chimneys generally showed an improvement in the density and duration of smoke production.

9.—SWIMMING BATHS.

The Corporation own the only Swimming Baths in the area. There are two pools. Recent bacteriological examination of the water proved it to be satisfactory.

10.—SCHOOLS.

Under this heading in my Report of last year I made separate mention of each elementary school in the borough, and I demonstrated that, from a hygienic point of view, several of the schools fell far short of modern standards.

There is no need to repeat this year the notes made regarding each school, but it is very gratifying to record that in several cases the Managers of non-provided schools are making efforts to bring their school premises up to a higher hygienic standard. The Education Committee has undertaken, on application from the Managers and subject to the approval of the Board of Education, to pay the whole of the cost of surfacing with concrete flags those playgrounds of non-provided schools which at present are wholly or partially unpaved.

Trough closets still exist in some schools and are an abomination. The provision of some automatic flushing arrangement for boys' urinals is an absolute necessity, so many of these being dependent upon the efforts of the caretaker and a bucket of water. If a length of hose were provided to caretakers for this purpose it would no doubt bring about a marked improvement.

Insufficient staff accommodation is a marked feature, and sanitary accommodation and washing facilities for the staff are often insufficient or lacking altogether.

It is encouraging to note the increased provision of individual towels for each scholar. These are either of towelling and are periodically taken home by each child in order to be washed, or are of paper, used on one occasion only and afterwards burnt. Either method is much to be preferred to the communal roller towel.

11.—RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The Annual Report of the Rat Officer for the year under review shows that 375 visits were paid to infested premises and a total of 2,334 rats destroyed. The services of three expert rat catchers are available to the public, the Council providing each with two dog licences, three ferrets and the requisite netting.

National Rat Week (November 2nd to 7th) was utilized in an endeavour to emphasize the responsibility of the public and to disseminate information regarding measures for rat destruction and the protection of buildings from these pests. Articles in the local press, posters, and pamphlets were all employed in the effort. Pamphlets with accompanying circular letters were sent to farmers, occupiers of bakehouses, factories, and premises which by reason of the trade carried on were likely to encourage or harbour rats and mice.

12.—CANAL BOATS.

The number of boats on the register at the end of the year, which could reasonably be believed to be in use, or available for use, was 22. Twenty-three boats were inspected during the year, and there were five infringements of the Canal Boats Acts, and the regulations thereunder. The contraventions were immediately remedied on the owners attention being called to them.

13.—FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces. (Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspec- tions (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories..... (Including Factory Laundries).	77	10	Nil
Workshops..... (Includ. Workshop Laundries).	32	1	Nil
Workplaces..... (Other than Outworkers' premises).	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total.....	109	11	Nil

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remed'd (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of cleanliness.....	17	17	—	—
Want of ventilation.....	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding.....	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	3	3	—	—
Other nuisances.....	1	1	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation:				
Insufficient.....	2	1	—	—
Unsuitable & defective	3	3	—	—
Not separate for sexes..	1	1	—	—
Other Offences.....	1	1	—	—
Total.....	28	27	—	—

14.—PRIVATE AND ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Name of Act.	Date of Adoption.
Leigh Corporation Act	... September, 1903
Baths and Wash-houses Act, 1879	... In or about 1879
Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889...	27th November, 1889
Private Street Works Act, 1892	... 30th July, 1895
Libraries Act, 1892	... 27th September, 1892
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 :	
Parts II. and III.	... 26th April, 1892
Parts IV. and V.	... 9th November, 1900
Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890 :	
Part III.	... 11th March, 1902
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890...	14th October, 1902
Museum and Gymnasiums Act, 1891	... 11th March, 1902
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 :	<div> By Order of the Local Government Board, dated 1st May, 1913, which Order repealed the fol- lowing Sections of the Leigh Corporation Act, 1903 : Sections, 151, 167 (so far as relates to Sec. 34 of the Act of 1907), 210, 211 and 212. </div>
Part II., Sections 22, 30 and 33	
Part III., Sections 34, 36, 37, 49 and 51	
Part IV., Sections 55, 56, 63, 64 and 65	
Part V. (whole)	
Part X. (whole)	
Leigh Corporation Act, 1920	...
Public Health Act, 1925 :	
Part II., III., IV., V.	... 19th April, 1926
Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926	... 16th May, 1927

15.—BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE WITHIN THE DISTRICT.

	Date when made by Council.	Approved by Government Department.
Prohibition of Book-making, Betting or Wagering in Public Places	...16th Oct. 1900 ...	—
Compulsory Lighting of Vehicles	...13th Mar. 1900...	3rd May 1900
Prevention of Danger from Telegraph Wires, &c.	...12th Mar. 1901...	7th Oct. 1901
Markets	...30th Aug. 1901...	15th Oct. 1901
Omnibuses	...10th Sept. 1901...	26th Oct. 1901
Management, Use and Regulation of the Public Baths	...10th Sept. 1901...	29th Oct. 1901
Drainage of Existing Buildings	... 8th April 1902...	31st May 1902
New Streets and Buildings	..11th Aug. 1925 ..	3rd Nov. 1925
Slaughter-houses	...14th Oct. 1902 ...	29th Nov. 1902
Offensive Trades	...14th Oct. 1902 ...	29th Nov. 1902
Common Lodging-houses	...14th Oct. 1902 ..	29th Nov. 1902
Nuisances	... 9th Nov. 1903...	2nd Jan. 1904
Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar Structures used for Human Habi- tation in the Borough of Leigh	...13th Oct. 1908 ...	23rd Dec. 1908
Provision of Means of Escape in case of Fire in certain Factories and Workshops in the Borough of Leigh	... 8th June 1909 ...	2nd July 1909
For the Good Rule and Government of the Borough of Leigh and for the Prevention of Nuisances	...11th May 1909 ...	—
Rear Lights on Vehicles	.. 8th Oct. 1912 ...	28th Nov. 1912
For Regulating the Employment of Children	...10th Aug. 1920...	22nd Jan. 1921
Regulations as to Internal Water Fittings, Service Pipes, &c.	...March 1907 ...	—
Regulating the Travelling and Pre- vention of Nuisances in Motor Omnibuses	...13th June 1922 ...	23rd Aug. 1922
Pleasure Grounds	...12th Dec. 1922 ...	7th Feb. 1923
Smoke Abatement	..29th Oct. 1929 ...	19th Dec. 1929
Nursing Homes	...29th Oct. 1929 ...	19th Dec. 1929
Houses let in lodgings	...11th April 1933 ...	1st June 1933



PART IV



HOUSING.



HOUSING.

No. of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers separately under (b))	...	704
(i) By Local Authority	... ..	163
(ii) By other Local Authorities	.. ...	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	... ..	541
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—		
(i) By Local Authority	... ..	38
(ii) By other bodies or persons	... ..	—

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	2147
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	3672
(2) (a) Number of Dwelling-houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925...	... ..	640
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	640
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...	... ..	142
(4) Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	593

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	493
---	--------	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers.*A. Proceedings under Section 17, 18, and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.*

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	4
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices		
(a) by Owners	... ..	2
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	... ..	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	199
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice—				
(a) by Owners	..	...	...	188
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	...	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	5
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	..	Nil

D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1935.—Overcrowding.

(a) (I) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	420
(II) Number of families dwelling therein	.... .... 556
(III) Number of persons dwelling therein	.... .... 2859
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	.... .... 2
(c) (I) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	.... .... 23
(II) Number of persons concerned in such cases	.... .... 101

General Remarks.

Housing activities during the year can be placed in four categories :

- (a) Representations of Areas in respect of 134 houses comprising 20 areas. One clearance area of 7 houses was confirmed by the Minister of Health and the remainder are awaiting confirmation. (Since the end of the year under review confirmation has, in fact, been received in respect of the remaining 19 Areas).

7 Individual houses were dealt with under Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930, during the year.

- (b) Building of 163 houses by the Corporation and 541 houses by private enterprise.
- (c) The complete reconditioning of 110 houses.
- (d) The measurement of houses to ascertain the "permitted number" (Section 6 (2) Housing Act, 1935).

(a) Representation was made to the Council in respect of 134 houses comprising 20 Areas.

Clearance Orders were made by the Council and in one instance confirmed by the Minister of Health.

Of the remaining 19 Orders, no objection was made by the owners with regard to 8. The other 11 Orders were objected to and a Public Inquiry was held by an Inspector of the Ministry.

As indicated above these Orders have been confirmed.

In addition to the Areas, 7 individual houses were dealt with.

A list of the Areas and individual houses follows.

<i>Area</i>	<i>Houses Comprising Area.</i>	<i>No. of</i>	<i>Persons dis- placed.</i>
Wood End.....	1, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 5, 6 Wood End Cottages.....	7	36
Brooks Houses.....	17, 18 Brooks Houses.....	2	8
Corner Lane.....	61, 63, 65, 67 Corner Lane.....	4	12
Ditchfield Street.....	8, 10, 12, 14 Ditchfield Street	4	19
Kirkhall Lane (No. 2).....	96/98, 100, 102/104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 120, 122, 124 Kirkhall Lane	16	57
	1, 3, 5 Physic Street.....		
Pendlebury Fold.....	1, 2, 3 Pendlebury Fold.....	3	12
Smallbrook Lane.....	23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33 Smallbrook Lane.....	6	24

<i>Area</i>	<i>Houses comprising Area.</i>	<i>No. of houses</i>	<i>Persons displaced</i>
Stewarts Houses.....	124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, Westleigh Lane.....	12	52
	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Stewarts Hses....		
Westleigh Lane (No. 1).	44, 46 Westleigh Lane.....	2	7
Unsworth Street.....	219, 221, 223, 225, 227, Kirkhall Lane.....	8	26
	2, 4, 6 Unsworth Street.....		
Westleigh Lane (No. 2).	22, 24, 26 Westleigh Lane.....	3	8
„ „ (No. 3).	388, 390, 392, 394, Westleigh Lane.....	4	14
„ „ (No. 4).	398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410 Westleigh Lane.....	7	33
Westwell Street.....	77a, 79, 81, 83 Westleigh Lane 2, 4, 4a, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 Westwell Street.....	34	153
	9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 18 Jerry St.		
	8, 12, 14, 16, 18 Jerry Street....		
	13, 15, 17, 19 Nel Pan Lane....		
Fox Robin Fold (No. 1).	5, 7 Fox Robin Fold.....	2	5
„ „ „ (No. 2).	23, 25 Fox Robin Fo d.....	2	4
Kirkhall Lane (No. 3).	85, 87, 89 Kirkhall Lane.....	3	11
Westleigh Lane (No. 5).	78, 80 Westleigh Lane.....	2	7
„ „ (No. 6).	109/111, 113, 115, 117 Westleigh Lane.....	4	18
„ „ (No. 7).	50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66 Westleigh Lane.....	9	32
TOTALS....		134	538

Individual Houses.

<i>Address</i>	<i>No. of houses</i>	<i>Persons displaced</i>
4 Westbridgewater Street*.....	1	3
Double Cop Farm House.....	1	7
19 Fox Robin Fold.....	1	2
210/211 Parsonage.....	1	4
160 Westleigh Lane*.....	1	5
271 „ „	1	3
18 Pickley Green.....	1	—
TOTALS	7	24

*Undertaking given not to let for human habitation.
Remainder to be demolished.

Summary.

	<i>No. of houses dealt with</i>	<i>No. of persons displaced</i>
Areas.....	134	538
Individuals.....	7	24
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	141	562
	<hr/>	<hr/>

HOUSING ACTS 1930—1936.

PROGRESS TO 31st DECEMBER, 1936.

Number of houses demolished and provisionally scheduled for demolition as at year ending 31st December, 1936.

Number of houses dealt with..... 848

(a) Scheduled before programme.....	167
(b) Scheduled on programme.....	445
(c) Added to schedule and since demolished.....	37
(d) Added to schedule during 1935.....	135
(e) Added to schedule during 1936.....	64

Number of houses demolished..... 410

(a) Before programme.....	167
(b) To end of 1935.....	225
(c) Voluntarily during 1935.....	10
(d) During 1936.....	7
(e) Voluntarily during 1936.....	1

Number of houses in respect of which clearance or demolition

orders have been made but not confirmed..... 134

(a) Original schedule.....	95
(b) Added to schedule.....	32
(c) Individual houses—original schedule.....	2
(d) Individual houses added to schedule.....	5

Number of houses reconditioned which were originally scheduled..... 41

Number of houses for which undertakings not to use
for human habitation have been given..... 4 } 45

Number of houses still to be dealt with..... 259

(a) Original schedule.....	97
(b) Added to schedule.....	162

PROGRESS OF DEMOLITION.

<i>Pre-programme</i>	<i>Number of houses demolished</i>	
1932	92	
1933	75	
	<hr/>	
	167	
	<hr/>	
<i>Programme</i>	<i>Number of houses to be dealt with as per programme</i>	<i>Number of houses actually dealt with</i>
1934	93	98
1935	86	137
1936	84	142
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	263	377
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Number of houses in advance of programme..... 114

(b) *Building of Houses.*

During the year the Corporation completed the erection of 163 houses. Two schemes comprising approximately 279 houses are in varying stages of erection. A further scheme of 130 houses is contemplated.

Private enterprise was responsible for the erection of a further 541 houses.

A total of 704 houses was, therefore erected during the year.

(c) *Re-conditioning of Houses.*

During the year ending 31st December, 1936, 126 houses were inspected with a view to their complete reconditioning and 110 houses have been entirely reconditioned.

This makes a total of 1,007 houses which have been inspected under the informal reconditioning scheme since its commencement.

Following the inspection, a schedule of works necessary to secure a reasonable state of fitness is forwarded to the owner together with an intimation that any proposals made will receive consideration.

Numerous inspections are made during the progress of the work and interviews with owners, their architects, and contractors are frequent.

The following shows in tabular form the position at 31st December, 1936, with regard to the 1,007 houses under review :—

Reconditioning completed.....	487
Negotiations opened during year.....	19
Negotiations continued during year.....	70
Proposals accepted but work not commenced.....	5
Proposals accepted, work given out but not commenced.....	14
Work in progress (various stages).....	182
Transferred for future action under Housing Act, 1936.....	173
Dealt with in Clearance Areas during 1936.....	32
Dealt with as Individual Houses during 1936.....	6
Undertakings not to let for human habitation.....	11
To be demolished voluntarily.....	6
Adding to adjoining houses.....	2
	<hr/>
	1007

Some information on the general scheme of informal reconditioning is given below.

Following a detailed inspection of the house or houses a schedule of works necessary to put the premises into a reasonable state of fitness is forwarded to the owner with a letter intimating willingness to assist and to consider any proposals the owner may submit.

Negotiations, often somewhat protracted, include many interviews with the owners, their architects and contractors, before a decision as to the method of carrying out the work has been reached. The results have been well worth while.

The work has been carried out in a very satisfactory manner.

A damp proof course, in some cases to outside walls only, in others to all walls, is always insisted upon where evidence of dampness exists.

Many structural alterations in addition are carried out. In some instances the roof has been stripped, the walls raised and the height of the ceilings increased to Bye Law standard.

Re-pointing of the walls where the pointing is defective is usually sufficient, but in cases where the brickwork is old and porous rendering with waterproofed cement is required.

In some instances roofs are stripped and re-slatted. Windows receive special attention. Most are too small and new windows, of Bye Law standard, are provided in lieu. This, in practice, usually means that new windows are provided throughout.

The provision of a foodstore and efficient facilities for washing of clothes is insisted upon. The provision of separate Closet Accommodation is necessary in many cases.

Where one bedroom is entered through another separate access is also insisted upon. This is accomplished in many ways, by the erection of a partition in one of the rooms, sometimes necessitating new door openings and the bricking up of others, by taking down the existing staircase, providing a new one in an appropriate position and the re-planning of the bedrooms.

Handrails are always asked for to those stairs not so furnished, and many new complete staircases have been provided.

Flag floors have invariably been found in a broken, uneven and damp condition. These have been taken up and new concrete floors laid. Wooden floors are found to be in a decayed condition, the extent of decay varying from a whole floor to just one or two boards. New floors have been provided or repairs carried out.

Partial, and, in instances, complete replastering has been necessary.

Many houses share a common yard. In cases where the provision of a separate yard is impracticable the situation has been met by the erection of a brick or wood spear, (6ft. x 5ft.) between each house. The repair or renewal of the yard paving is insisted upon.

Occasionally it is found that the successful reconditioning of two adjoining houses cannot be accomplished. This difficulty has been met by making the two houses into one, and in one case, into a bungalow. This necessitated the complete gutting of the houses, and entire re-planning. It was successfully accomplished.

Another phase of the work of reconditioning is the making of a large house into two smaller ones, both of useful size.

Disinfestation of verminous houses takes place before reconditioning commences.

The work of reconditioning is proceeding but, as will be seen from the foregoing, much time is taken up before the work itself actually commences, and a fairly considerable time elapses before the houses are completely finished.

(d) Measurement for Permitted Number.

Upon application of the owner or occupier under the provisions of Section 6 (2) of the Housing Act, 1935, the Local Authority must inform the applicant as to the permitted number of persons constituting the permitted number in relation to the house.

This has necessitated a large amount of work as each habitable room has to be measured, the measurements recorded and a certificate forwarded to the owner.

Certificates were issued in respect of 837 houses during the last portion of the year 1936.

(e) *Disinfestation.*

Since the disinfestation of the furniture and effects of tenants displaced from Clearance Areas was first introduced by the Corporation, much work has been done towards ensuring that the people do not take with them to their new houses any bugs or their eggs. Similarly, the treatment of Corporation property has been undertaken where this was considered necessary.

The members of the sanitary staff are endeavouring to show that the suppression of these insect pests is a necessary accompaniment of the higher standard of housing conditions which is undoubtedly being gradually brought about.

The Public Health Department Staff has been experimenting with several preparations and none has so far yielded perfect results, although certain combinations or different methods and preparations seem to achieve a greater degree of success than any one preparation used alone.

Up to the present the method of treatment used to prevent the transference of vermin from bug infested houses to new re-housing areas, has been the spraying of furniture, pictures etc., and these, prior to spraying, are dismantled so far as practicable, and as far as will allow reasonable access for spraying. Bedding and apparel are treated in the steam steriliser, and with the new vertical boiler provided a much more rapid and thorough steam sterilisation and drying can be effected.



PART V.

INSPECTION
AND
SUPERVISION OF FOOD.



1.—Milk Supply.—Farms and dairies in the borough area are inspected as frequently as possible, samples are taken regularly for cleanliness, and twenty-two samples for bacteriological examination were taken during the year. Milch cattle are inspected regularly by the veterinary surgeon. During the year 515 cows were inspected by him and of these 9 were found to be suffering from tuberculosis.

Seventeen samples of designated milk were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. All were satisfactory and complied with the prescribed conditions.

Three samples of mixed milk were examined for bacterial count, and for bacillus coli, and were found to be quite satisfactory.

Two samples of milk were submitted for examination for tubercle bacilli, but the result was negative.

One hundred and fifty-two visits to farms and dairies were made during the year by the sanitary inspectors.

The number of distributors of designated milk was as follows :

Certified.....	1
Grade A (Tuberculin Tested).....	3
Grade A.....	12
Pasteurised.....	6

The number of cowkeepers on the register at 31st December was 47, and the number of retail purveyors of milk, 183.

Farms and dairies continue to receive the attention of the Department and negotiations have taken place with various owners with successful results. At one farm an entirely new shippon, built on modern lines, has been erected and at others agreement has been reached whereby reconditioning will be effected during the forthcoming year.

2.—Meat and other Foods.—The slaughter-houses are visited regularly following notice of intention to slaughter and at irregular times. One thousand four hundred and thirty-two visits were made, and the following number of carcasses inspected : Cattle, 2,314 ; Sheep, 4,898 ; Pigs, 11,941 ; Calves, 15 ; Total, 19,168 carcasses.

The Shops, stalls and vehicles are also kept under constant observation.

There is no public slaughter-house.

Private slaughter-houses : Registered 11 ; Licensed 6 ; Total 17.

The following unsound food was voluntarily surrendered, condemned and destroyed :—

Beef.....	25,963 lbs.
Pork.....	10,751 „
Mutton.....	377 „

**Unsound Food Clauses — Public Health Act, 1875 —
Sections 116 to 119.**

During routine inspection of the Market stalls 20 rabbits were seized by the Sanitary Inspector as being unsound and unfit for the food of man. They were inspected by a Magistrate who ordered their destruction.

The vendor and her assistant were later prosecuted and convicted, the vendor being fined £8 and her assistant £1.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

This Act came into force on the 1st January, 1934.

All animals slaughtered in the Borough, with the exception of sheep, are slaughtered by means of mechanically operated instruments as prescribed by the Act. So far the results have been satisfactory.

Section 3 prohibits the slaughtering and stunning of animals except by licensed slaughtermen. The slaughtermen in the Borough are licensed for a period of 2 years. They carry out their work in a careful and expeditious manner.

It has not been found necessary to take action for any contravention of the requirements of the Act.

Bakehouses.

During the year 118 inspections were made of the various bakehouses in the Borough, as a result of which 19 notices were served for the remedying of the following defects :—

Dirty walls, floors and ceilings.....	13
Defective floors, sink and spouting.....	5
Provide an additional water closet.....	1

The requirements of the notices were complied with.

3.—Adulteration.

The Lancashire County Council administer the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and samples for analysis are taken by the County Police.

The Local Police Superintendent reports that during 1936 the following samples were taken in the area and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination :—

Milk.....	100		
Arrowroot.....	1	Barley.....	1
Baking Powder.....	1	Butter.....	1
Borax.....	2	Castor Oil.....	1
Cheese.....	2	Cornflour.....	1
Canned Tomatoes.....	1	Canned Fruit.....	1
Canned Fish.....	1	Egg Substitute.....	1
Epsom Salts	2	Flour (S.R.).....	3
Flour.....	3	Gravy Browning.....	1
Gregory's Powder.....	1	Ground Almonds.....	1
Glycerine.....	1	Glauber Salts.....	1
Jam.....	1	Lard.....	4
Liquorice Powder.....	1	Magnesia.....	1
Oatmeal.....	4	Olive Oil.....	1
Pickles.....	3	Rice.....	4
Sugar.....	4	Sauce.....	2
Sago.....	2	Suet (Shredded).....	1
Saltpetre.....	1	Tea.....	1
Treacle.....	2	Vinegar.....	1
Zinc Ointment.....	1	Nutmegs.....	1
Total.....	162		

4.—Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

Chemical analysis is carried out by the Public Analyst.

Bacteriological analysis is carried out by :—

(1) Evans' Biological Institute, Runcorn.

(2) Public Health Laboratory of the Manchester University.

5.—Nutrition.

The existence of malnutrition among school children has engaged the attention of the Medical Officers, and, at every examination, whether routine or special, of every child an assessment of the nutrition is made, and a record kept.

During the month of March, 1936, a rapid survey was made of the nutrition of the children in the elementary schools. The assistance of the Head Teachers was invoked and they were asked to prepare lists of those children whom they considered to be undernourished. In this way 534 children were listed and these were examined by the Medical Officers. Of these 95 were found to be undernourished. The primary selection by the Head Teachers was adopted as a means of rapidly selecting the children who were probably the undernourished ones. Since it does not involve clinical examination, but is based chiefly on appearance it must of necessity omit some children which clinical examination by a medical man would reveal. However, it serves the purpose of quickly achieving a knowledge of the worst cases of malnutrition. The services rendered by the Head Teachers and the interest shown were much appreciated by the Medical Staff.

The following table shows the results of the survey.

No. of children selected by teachers and examined by School Medical Officer.....	534
No. of children found with subnormal nutrition.....	95
No. of children for whom meals were recommended....	9
No. of children for whom meals and milk were re- commended.....	29
No. of children for whom milk was recommended.....	57

Communications were given or sent to the parents of the children, and in 33 instances application by the parents was made for free meals and/or milk to be provided.

The remainder of the cases were subsequently followed up, and, of the 62 cases who made no application, 47 subsequently promised to apply. Of the remaining 15, four were considered at the second inspection to have normal nutrition, one had left the district, one was in attendance at the Open Air School, two had left school, four were not eligible on account of the parents' income to have free meals, and three children could not take milk.

There is undoubtedly a reluctance on the part of some parents to have free meals for their children and by these there is considered to be a stigma attached.

At the request of the Board of Education the returns relating to malnutrition in the routine age groups are now given in such tabular form that uniformity will be assured and the findings of one area will be comparable with those of another.

Routine Nutrition Inspections.

Age-groups.	Number of children inspected	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly sub-normal)		D. (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants.....	656	—	—	623	94.97	33	5.03	—	—
Second age-group.....	525	—	—	485	92.38	40	7.62	—	—
Third age-group.....	568	—	—	539	94.9	29	5.1	—	—
Other routine Inspections..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total.....	1,749	—	—	1647	94.17	102	5.83	—	—

The above table reveals the fact that 102 children or 5.83 per cent of those examined showed signs of subnormal nutrition. Comparison with 1935 figures shows an increased incidence of subnormal nutrition in all the age-groups. The percentage found with subnormal nutrition of the children examined in 1935 was 2.79, so that the figure for 1936 is double that of the previous year.

It will be observed that all cases fall within the Category C. (Slightly subnormal) and that no cases of bad malnutrition were found.

This may be due to the fact that no children are allowed to get to the stage when they are badly undernourished, but are discovered before that by the health nurses, or teachers or at a nutrition survey.

Cases of undernourishment are followed up by the Health Nurses who investigate the home circumstances and tender advice as to dietary. Usually the subnormal nutrition is found to be due to lack of means, and consequent inability to purchase the requisite amounts of dairy foods and first class protein.



PART VI.

PREVALENCE OF, AND
CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER
DISEASES.



1.—INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES (Excluding Tuberculosis)

The number of cases of infectious disease in 1936 was 413 compared with 345 for the year 1935 and 231 for 1934.

This increase in the incidence of these diseases is accounted for by the large number of cases of Diphtheria and Pneumonia. The following table summarises the incidence of the principal notifiable diseases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis).

	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>	<i>No. of cases removed to Hospital</i>	<i>No. of deaths in Hospital</i>
Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria.....	133	14	128	10
Erysipelas.....	18	—	8	—
Scarlet Fever.....	142	1	108	1
Puerperal Fever.....	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	18	—	6	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	9	—	—	—
Pneumonia..	91	47	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	2	1	1

Diphtheria.

The total number of cases occurring during 1936 was 133, compared with 74 last year.

In my report of last year I mentioned that during the last seven weeks of 1935, twenty-seven cases of diphtheria had occurred in children attending St. Peter's C.E. School. The outbreak continued into the year 1936. The usual difficulty was met with in trying to trace the source of infection, but constant watch was kept over the children at school and reported cases of illness were visited at home by the health nurses. Two carriers were eventually discovered and kept at home.

The incidence of diphtheria throughout the year demonstrates that St. Peter's school suffered severely, there having occurred 42 cases at that school, 24 in the Junior Mixed Department and 18 in the Infants' Department. In other schools the incidence was low, the next highest number of cases viz., 7, occurring in Butts C.E. Junior School. Altogether 98 children who attended Leigh schools were affected, 9 attended schools outside the area, 15 were pre-school children and 11 were adults.

The highest incidence was in the month of October, 1936, when 21 cases were notified.

In all 16 cases were discovered by the School Medical Officers and several of these were of a severe type. Ten deaths occurred in school children and four in pre-school children, making 14 deaths in all.

Two deaths occurred during 1936, the illness having been notified in 1935, and in one case a child whose residence was in Leigh, was removed from the Public Assistance Institution.

The case mortality was 10.5 per cent.

A clinic for the immunization of children against diphtheria was begun in October, 1935, and during the year 90 children have been treated using the single injection method with Alum Precipitated Toxoid. Of these 51 have responded to a subsequent request to allow the children to be Schick-tested. In all but a few cases the Schick test was negative, and in the four cases in which it was found positive, a further injection has rendered the children Schick negative.

It is to be regretted that more parents do not avail themselves of the facilities offered for the immunization of their children against diphtheria. Much has been done in the way of propaganda, but apathy is frequently met with until an outbreak of diphtheria comes along. Since immunity takes some little time to develop it is desirable that immunization should be done in the summer months and preferably between the ages of one and two years.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified was 142 compared with 151 for 1935, and 103 for 1934.

Thirty four cases were nursed at home and the remainder were nursed at Astley Sanatorium where one death occurred from this disease in a patient from the area.

Pneumonia.

During the year, 91 cases of acute primary pneumonia were notified and one of acute influenzal pneumonia. This is an increase of 12 on the previous year's figures, although the number of deaths from pneumonia was 49 compared with 51 during 1935.

The number of deaths from pneumonia, however, does not include deaths attributed to influenza or other epidemic disease in association with pneumonia. These are classified by the Registrar-General as due to the former cause.

No adequate hospital facilities exist in the area for the nursing of cases of pneumonia and it is hoped that the enlargement of, and extensions to, Astley Sanatorium may afford these necessary facilities.

Information of the presence of non-notifiable infectious diseases is very scant. A few cases of illness were notified by the parents, but the majority were ascertained through the Teachers, School Attendance Officers and Health Nurses.

As far as possible each case was visited by a Health Nurse at least once to impress on the parents the importance of medical attention. When infectious cases are prevalent, the Head Teacher of each School makes a daily return of children absent from School on account of illness supposed to be infectious. This practice is found to be of great service, particularly in the case of non-notifiable infectious diseases.

No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin and swabs are supplied by the Local Authority and special arrangements are made to facilitate the distribution to medical practitioners so that they may always have in their possession at least one swab and a preliminary dose of serum for immediate use. They are urged to administer an early application even to doubtful cases of the disease.

Schultz-Charlton outfits are available at the Public Health Department for practitioners who desire their assistance in arriving at a diagnosis of Scarlet Fever.

Analysis of Cases of Infectious Disease notified, Number of Deaths from these Diseases, Number of Cases removed to Hospital, and Deaths in Hospital during the year 1936.

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED													HOSPITAL		
	Total Cases at all ages	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 and over	Total Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district
Smallpox ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	133	—	1	6	6	5	61	43	2	7	1	1	—	14	128	10
Erysipelas ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	3	6	3	—	8	—
Scarlet Fever ...	142	—	3	5	12	13	61	31	4	10	2	1	—	1	108	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	16	1	—	—	—	6	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia } Acute Influenzal Pneumonia }	91	7	7	3	4	5	11	3	9	9	13	11	9	47	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Any other Disease notified in the District : —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	414	16	11	14	22	24	134	77	17	48	20	19	12	64	252	12

Disinfection of premises and materials is carried out by the staff of the Public Health Department. All dwelling-houses are dealt with on death, removal or convalescence of infectious patients. Other premises are frequently disinfected on request, and where necessity is apparent. The Schools are also disinfected—particularly during periods of epidemics, or the known presence of an infectious child. Private Schools are treated on request. Gaseous Formaldehyde is used for buildings, and a steam disinfector is available for clothes, bedding, etc. Three hundred and thirty premises were disinfected during the year on account of the following diseases :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	142
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	8
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	131
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	41
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Cancer	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	4
Total	..	...	...	...	<u>330</u>

Steam disinfection of the following bedding was carried out :—

No. of Beds from Institutions	...	...	7
„ „ „ Clearance Areas	...	...	<u>52</u>
Total	...	...	<u>59</u>

Library books found in houses in which infectious disease is present are confiscated and either disinfected and returned to the Library or, if dirty and dilapidated, destroyed.

The following are particulars of Library books so dealt with : —

No. of Books disinfected and returned to Library...	...	...	163
No. of Books destroyed...	...	...	<u>—</u>
Total	...	...	<u>163</u>

There is no disinfecting station ; bedding and other clothing are treated in the steam disinfector.

2.—CANCER.

The following tables give some particulars with regard to the deaths from Cancer during the year 1936 :—

Sex :— Male.....25 }
 Female.....35 } Total 60

Occupation :— House duties29
 Coal Miner..... 7
 Outdoor Labourer..... 5
 Cotton Operative..... 6
 Miscellaneous.....13

—
 60
 —

SITE	Breast.	Liver.	Lungs.	Uterus.	Stomach	Pelvic Colon and Rectum.	Other parts of Digestive tract.	Larynx.	Bladder and Prostate	Cheek.	Neck.	Pancreas.	Ventriculi.	Total.
Number	3	1	1	6	24	9	5	3	3	1	2	1	1	60

AGE.	Under 50.	50-55.	55-60.	60-65.	65-70.	70-75.	75-80.	Over 80.	Total.
Number	6	6	7	10	11	12	6	2	60

The recorded number of deaths due to cancer shows an increase for the year of 6, being 60 as against 54 for 1935, giving a crude death-rate of 1.31 per thousand compared with 1.19 for 1935.

3.—PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum are nursed at home by the Health Nurses. If the Medical Attendant requests, the patient and mother are admitted into the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital under arrangements made by the Local Authority with the Hospital.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Number Notified.	CASES TREATED.		Vision Un- impaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
9	9	Nil	9	Nil	Nil	Nil

4.—TUBERCULOSIS.

This service is under the control of the Lancashire County Council. The central dispensary of one of the county areas is situated in the town. The following statement of particulars regarding the district, was supplied by the Consultant Tuberculosis Officer :—

	Adults.		Children.		Total.		
	15 and over.						
No. of cases admitted to Sanatoria	...	3	...	—	...	3	
No. of cases admitted to Pulmonary Hospitals	34	...	—	...	34		
No. of cases admitted to General Hospitals	7	...	6	..	13		
No. of cases granted Skin Hospital Treatment	—	...	—	...	—		
No. of cases granted Artificial Light Treatment	5	...	4	...	9		
No. of cases granted X-Ray examination...	116	..	20	...	136		
No. of cases granted Dispensary Supervision or Dispensary Treatment	...	...	160	...	29	...
No. of cases under supervision on 31st December, 1936	...	...	...	...	140	...
Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	85	} 140
Non-Pulmonary	42		} 30
Combined (Pulmonary & Non-Pulmonary)	13			} 170
Removed from Register during the year as recovered	...	...	...	...	15	...
	...	...	...	...	2	...

The County Tuberculosis Dispensary, 13 Church Street, is open each Wednesday and Friday at 10-0 a.m., and also on the second Thursday in each month at 6-30 p.m. for patients who are working. Close co-operation has been maintained between Medical Practitioners, including the School Medical Officer, who regularly sends children with suspicious symptoms, and the Tuberculosis Staff. Working in close association with the Dispensary, there is a voluntary Care Committee which meets monthly at the Dispensary for the purpose of providing clothing, nourishment, &c., for poor consumptives in order to enable them to persevere with their long course of treatment, and prevent their becoming chargeable to the Public Assistance Committee.

Artificial Light Treatment is now available for patients from this Dispensary.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1936.

NEW CASES							DEATHS				
Age periods		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
Years		M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
0—1	....	0	0	1	0	....	0	0	0	0
1—5	....	0	0	2	2	....	0	0	0	1
5—10	....	0	1	3	3	....	0	0	0	0
10—15	....	0	1	1	2	....	0	1	0	0
15—20	....	0	5	2	0	....	0	1	0	0
20—25	....	3	3	1	0	....	0	2	0	0
25—35	....	2	5	0	1	....	3	0	2	2
35—45	....	3	1	2	1	....	5	2	2	0
45—55	....	3	2	0	0	....	4	0	0	0
55—65	....	2	0	0	0	....	1	0	0	0
65 and upwards	....	0	0	0	0	....	0	0	0	0
		13	18	12	9	....	13	6	4	3
Totals		31		21			19		7		

The ratio of non-notified deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths during the year was 4/52.

OCCUPATION OF NOTIFIED TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

Under 5 years	4	No Occupation	5
Scholars (5 to 14 years)	12	Cotton Operatives ..	5
Domestic	7	Labourers	2
Coal Miners	9	Miscellaneous	8

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

No. of Cases—	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Total Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total
(a) On Register at commencement of year..1936.....	80	54	134	58	70	128	138	124	262
(b) Notified for first time during year...	13	18	31	12	9	21	25	27	52
(c) Removed from Reg- ister during year and restored.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Added to Register during the year ascertained other- wise than by noti- fication under Reg- ulations.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (a), (b), (c) and (d).....	93	72	165	70	79	149	163	151	314
(e) Cases removed from Register during year	18	10	28	7	14	21	25	24	49
(f) Cases remaining on Register at end of year..1936.....	75	62	137	63	65	128	138	127	265

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)
REGULATIONS, 1925.

No employee of the milk trade was notified as suffering from Tuberculosis.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925—SECTION 62.

No occasion arose requiring the Section to be used.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The scheme for treatment is administered by the County Council.

There is no centre for treatment in the town, but a choice can be made from Bolton, Wigan, Manchester, Salford and Warrington, all very accessible, and fares are paid in necessitous cases.

The Public Health Department acts as an information bureau to patients and medical practitioners.

The County Council supplies outfits for the collection of specimens and examinations free of charge. Salvarsan substitutes are also supplied free to approved medical practitioners. The service provided is decidedly adequate, but patients fail to embrace the full benefit by stopping treatment prematurely.



PART VII

MATERNITY
AND
CHILD WELFARE.



A. GENERAL.**Births.**

The number of births notified during the year was :

(a) Live births.....	584
(b) Stillbirths.....	43
	<hr/>
Total (adjusted for inward and outward transfers)	627
	<hr/>

The live and still births were notified as follows :

(a) By Midwives.....	604
(b) By Medical practitioners and parents	23
	<hr/>
Total.....	627
	<hr/>

The number of live births registered was :

(a) Legitimate.....	571 (Males 309, females 262)
(b) Illegitimate.....	15 („ 7, „ 8)
	<hr/>
Total.....	586 (Males 316, females 270)
	<hr/>

This gives a Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population of 12.8.

Stillbirths.

Stillbirths registered numbered 44, 19 being males and 25 females. This gives a Stillbirth Rate of 69 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

All stillbirths occurring within the area are the subject of investigation by the Health Nurses. As far as can be ascertained the causes of still-birth are given in the following table.

Ante-partum Haemorrhage.....	5
Prolonged labour, forceps delivery.....	6
Malpresentation.....	12
Toxaemia and albuminuria.....	2
Illness of Mother.....	1
Deformity of child.....	2
Other conditions.....	5
Cause unknown.....	11
	<hr/>
	44
	<hr/>

Infant Deaths

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age which occurred during the year was 47, of which 28 were males, and 19 females. This figure yields an infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births of 80, which is precisely the same as that of the previous year.

The following table shows the deaths of infants under one year of age grouped according to cause of death.

Cause of Death	From Birth to 1 month (neo-natal deaths)	From 1 month to 12 months	Total Infant Deaths
1. Gastro-intestinal infective disease (enteritis, diarrhoea, etc.).....	—	—	—
2. Specific Infectious Diseases.....	1	2	3
3. Other Infective Conditions. Broncho-pneumonia, Bronchitis etc.....	2	11	13
4. Non-Infective Conditions.....	1	—	1
5. Congenital Malformations (Spina bifida, meningocele, etc.).....	8	3	11
6. Obstetrical Injuries.....	—	—	—
7. Serious Accidents.....	1	1	2
8. Unknown Causes Prematurity.....	11	1	12
Other conditions.....	5	—	5
	29	18	47

All infant deaths are the subject of inquiry by the Health Nurses.

Of the infant deaths, 28 could be ascribed to congenital causes such as prematurity, congenital weakness and congenital malformations, and most of these occurred during the first month of life.

The following table shows the age distribution of infant deaths.

Under 1 week	Under 1 month	Under 3 months	Under 6 months	Under 9 months	Total deaths under 12 months
18	29	32	38	42	47
38%	61.7%	68%	80%	89%	—

The subjoined table shows the Ward distribution of infant deaths.

St. Paul's.....	12
St. Mary's.....	5
Lilford.....	3
St. Thomas'.....	5
St. Joseph's.....	4
Hope Carr.....	5
Etherstone.....	1
St. Peter's.....	7
Out of district.....	5
	—
	47
	—

Maternal Deaths.

Four maternal deaths occurred during the year, all being due to puerperal causes other than sepsis. There were no deaths from puerperal sepsis. Three of the deaths occurred at home, and one at the Infirmary.

The puerperal mortality rate for 1936 for Leigh is 6.34 per 1,000 total (live and still) births, and the corresponding figure for England and Wales for 1936 is 3.65 per 1,000 total births. It will be observed that the rate is high, but not so high as in 1935 when there were 6 maternal deaths giving a death rate of 8.99 per 1,000 total births.

The causes of maternal death were certified as follows, and all were investigated by me.

Pulmonary Embolism.....	2
Obstetric Shock.....	1
Peritonitis following Ruptured Uterus and Caesarian Section.....	1

B. MATERNITY.

1.—Maternity Home.

The Home is fully equipped with 18 lying-in beds, 2 labour rooms, 2 observation rooms, and a commodious nursery.

The number of patients admitted during the year was 248, a decrease of twenty on the figure for 1935.

The following tables gives the statistics for the Home for the year 1936.

No. of

Patients admitted.....	248
Live births.....	234
Still births.....	11
Total births.....	245

No. of cases notified as :

(a) Puerperal Fever.....	nil
(b) Puerperal Pyrexia.....	7
(c) Pemphigus Neonatorum.....	nil
(d) Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	8
Maternal deaths.....	nil
Abortions.....	nil
Normal deliveries.....	167
Abnormal deliveries :.....	78
Inductions.....	7
Versions.....	2
Instrumental deliveries.....	78
Craniotomies.....	nil
Caesarian section.....	nil

No. of cases of :

Albuminuria	8
Eclampsia.....	nil
Placenta Praevia.....	nil
Ante Partum Haemorrhage.....	nil
Post Partum Haemorrhage.....	1
Valvular Disease of Heart	1

Other abnormalities :

Transverse lie.....	1
Unreduced Occipito posterior positions.....	3
Face presentations.....	1
Hydramnios.....	2
Breech Presentation.....	7

No. of foetal deaths :

(a) Stillborn :

Malnutrition in utero.....	4
Premature.....	3
Unreduced occipito posterior.....	1
Anencephalic.....	2
Post-mature.....	1

(b) Within 10 days of birth :

Infantile Convulsions.....	1
Atalectasis.....	2
Malformation.....	1
Exhaustion due to transverse lie.....	1
Cardiac Failure.....	1
Transferred to Leigh Infirmary.....	2
„ „ St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.....	1
„ „ Astley Sanatorium.....	1

The patients are not drawn solely from the borough area. The following table shows the number of patients from outside areas.

Golborne and Lowton.....	24
Atherton.....	20
Glazebury.....	5
Tyldesley and Astley.....	5
Hindley.....	3
Newton-in-Makerfield.....	2
Culcheth.....	2
Wigan.....	2
Abram.....	1
Westhoughton.....	1
Sale.....	1
Winwick	1
Worsley.....	1
	—
Total.....	68

Partial redecoration of the interior of the Home was carried out during the year under review.

The quarters on the second floor occupied by the nursing staff are not all that could be desired. The large door which gives entrance to the laundry washing-room requires renewal, since it is rotting in parts. It should be replaced by new glazed doors on a smaller scale, with windows surrounding to give ample lighting.

A combined prenatal and postnatal clinic is held at the Maternity Home each Wednesday afternoon for those patients who have elected to have their confinement conducted by the nurse-midwives in the Home. Patients who have engaged their own medical practitioner for the conduct of their delivery are referred to him for their prenatal care, and local medical practitioners are encouraged to supervise and examine their

own patients at suitable hours. Several general practitioners have fixed days when they see their own patients. Adequate prenatal care is a condition of admission to the Home.

The number of women who were delivered by the midwives in the Home was 167, and the number delivered by medical practitioners was 78, three patients having been transferred to other institutions before delivery.

The following table shows the number and nature of the abnormalities detected in relation to the women who attended the prenatal and postnatal clinic at the Home.

Albuminuria.....	8
Breech Presentation.....	7
Multiple Pregnancy.....	2
Occipito-posterior position.....	3
Chronic Cholecystitis.....	1
Cystocele.....	1
Hydronephrosis.....	1
Sudamina.....	1
Transverse position.....	1
Vomiting of pregnancy.....	1

The number of women attending the prenatal clinic at The Firs was 188, and 523 attendances were recorded by these women. The average attendance per session was 10.4, and the average duration of pregnancy at the first visit was 20 weeks.

Two women were referred to the Consultant Obstetrician for his opinion, 14 were referred to a general hospital for X-ray and other investigations, and one was referred to a special obstetric hospital.

Under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1918, medical help was summoned by the midwives at the Maternity Home in 50 cases, and the following table shows the respective categories under which the assistance of a medical practitioner was sought.

Pregnancy.....	2
Labour.....	31
Lying-in.....	8
Miscarriage.....	—
Of the Child.....	9
	—
	50

The popularity of the Minnitt's Gas-Air Analgesia apparatus is steadily increasing, and it is now used in most deliveries where the use of Chloroform or ether anaesthesia is not required.

2.—Prenatal and Postnatal Care.

In addition to the supervision given to patients who enter the Maternity Home—this has been included in the previous section—there is a weekly combined prenatal and postnatal clinic which is held at Stone House on Monday afternoons.

The following tables show the nature and extent of the work done at that Clinic. The figures of the Maternity Home Clinic are put alongside for comparative purposes.

	<i>Stone House</i>	<i>The Firs</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of women attending.....	94	188	282
Total attendances.....	288	523	811
Average number of Attendances per Session :—			
New Cases.....	2.0	3.8	
All women.....	6.1	10.4	

The abnormalities detected at Stone House Clinic are tabulated below :—

Prenatal.

Albuminuria.....	3
Anaemia.....	7
Angioneurotic Oedema.....	1
Asthma.....	2
Breech Presentation.....	5
Bronchitis.....	2
Cyclical Vomiting.....	1
Cystitis.....	2
Dental Caries.....	8
Dyspepsia.....	2
Epilepsy.....	1
Haemorrhoids.....	1
Hydramnios.....	3
Hyperpiesia.....	2
Malnutrition.....	22
Pyorrhoea.....	6
Transverse lie.....	1
Twin Pregnancy.....	1
Varicose Veins.....	5
Vicarious Menstruation.....	2
Valvular Disease of Heart.....	4
Vomiting.....	5

Number of women referred on account of abnormalities to :

Consultant.....	3
Tuberculosis Officer.....	1
General Hospital.....	7
Dental Surgeon.....	13
General Practitioner.....	8

Postnatal.

Number and nature of abnormalities detected :—

Cervical tear.....	1
Cystitis.....	1
Enlarged Inguinal glands.....	1
Malnutrition.....	1
Parametritis.....	1
Prolapse.....	1

Number of women referred on account of abnormalities to :—

General Hospital.....	3
General Practitioner.....	1

The total number of attendances at both clinics during 1936 was 811, and the total number of women who attended at the clinics during the year was 282. This latter number represents 48.1 per cent of the total registered births.

Total Pre-natal Attendances at Clinics since 1928 :—

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
No. of women attending..	40	91	108	97	233	264	228	279	282
No. of attendances.....	250	185	278	234	290	344	691	939	811
Rate per 100 births reg'd	5.3	14.1	15.8	13.0	34.5	40.2	35.8	43.4	48.1

Prenatal home visits by Health Nurses :—

1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
18	34	42	23	48	52	66	102	104

Arrangements for dental treatment, artificial sunlight treatment, the provision of milk and foods are the same as detailed in the report for 1935.

Two applications for the services of the "home helps" have been received during the year.

A scheme for the supply of sterilised maternity outfits has been in operation since 1931, and of it increasing advantage is being taken. 48 outfits were supplied during 1936 compared with 38 during 1935.

Women who were discovered to be undernourished and whose husbands were in receipt of Unemployment Assistance were given certificates to the effect that they required additional nutriment and the form it should take, specified.

41 certificates were given in respect of 14 women.

3.—Domiciliary Midwifery.

The supervision of midwives is carried out by the Medical Officers. The number of certified midwives practising in the area of the Authority during the year was 32. Seven midwives, who are also state registered nurses are employed by the Corporation at the Maternity Home. No midwives are subsidised by the authority, and none are employed by voluntary associations. Seven other midwives were employed at the Leigh Infirmary. The remainder (viz. 18) were midwives in independent domiciliary practice, only one of these being a state registered nurse.

The total number of cases attended by midwives during the year was 687. In 545 cases they acted as Midwives and in 142 they acted as Maternity Nurses under the charge of a medical practitioner.

Under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1918, medical help was sent for by midwives in 230 cases, and the following table shows the respective categories under which the assistance of a medical practitioner was sought.

	<i>The Firs</i>	<i>Independent Midwives</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pregnancy.....	2	46	48
Labour.....	31	70	101
Lying in.....	8	15	23
Miscarriage	—	22	22
Of the child.....	9	27	36
	—	—	—
	50	180	230
	—	—	—

During 1935 medical help was summoned on 213 occasions.

The following table gives the particulars of attendance at confinements during the year 1936. It will be observed that the total number of confinements which took place in the borough area exceeds the number of births registered and this is largely due to the fact that many women from outside areas come into the Maternity Home for the event.

Confinement conducted by :

Private medical practitioners and institutional medical Officers (Maternity nurses present)	64	} 142
Private medical practitioners in Firs Maternity Home (midwives acting as Maternity nurses)	78	
(The above instances do not include cases where a midwife seeks aid on a Medical Help form)		
Midwives in Maternity Home.....	167	} 545
Midwives in independent practice.....	378	
TOTAL		687

Number of confinements attended by midwives in private practice.....	378
Number of Medical Aid Calls from these.....	180
Percentage of Calls to these confinements.....	47.6
Percentage of Calls to total confinements.....	26.2

The midwifery practice of the independent midwives varies very much. Several midwives have relatively large practices, but most of the midwives practising in Leigh attended less than 10 cases during the year. Many of these attend only a few cases in order to supplement their income. The following table demonstrates the figures for 1936 :

Attending over 100 cases per annum.....	1
„ 60—100 „ „ „	2
„ 40—60 „ „ „	1
„ 20—40 „ „ „	2
„ 10—20 „ „ „	—
„ under 10 „ „ „	12

Only six midwives, therefore, attended over 20 cases per annum, the remaining 12 having attended under 10 cases each.

Prenatal supervision by some of the midwives is deficient, and their record-keeping incomplete.

4.—Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

All facilities are available for the investigation and treatment of these conditions, and details of arrangements were given in the Annual Report for 1935.

An investigation of all cases is made by the medical staff.

The following tables show the incidence of these puerperal conditions since 1926 :

	1926	'27	'28	'29	'30	'31	'32	'33	'34	'35	'36
Notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia from											
(1) General Practitioners.....	4	6	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	11
(2) Institutions.....	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	1	—	4	7
Notifications of Puerperal Fever from											
(1) General Practitioners.....	1	1	1	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	1
(2) Institutions.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—
<hr/>											
Number of Puerperal Sepsis deaths....	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—
Number of deaths from other											
puerperal causes.....	1	7	3	3	4	1	4	1	1	3	4
<hr/>											
Total puerperal deaths.....	4	7	5	3	5	1	4	1	1	6	4
<hr/>											

C. CHILD WELFARE.

1.—Health Nurses' Work.

The Health Nurses made 5,074 home visits to infants, and pre-school children during the year compared with 4,740 during 1935. Of these visits 2,710 were to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years. The following is a summary of their work.

Primary Visits	{	under 1 year.....	628	}	648
		over 1 year.....	20		
Re-visits	{	under 1 year.....	1736	}	4426
		over 1 year.....	2690		
Expectant Mothers.....					104
Still-birth investigations.....					43
Infant death investigations.....					47
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia — visits.....					19
Ophthalmia neonatorum — visits.....					92
Interviews.....					1155
Miscellaneous Visits.....					598

The Health Nurses have all been appointed Infant Life Protection Visitors, and immediately notify any case or suspected case of the receiving of infants for reward which comes to their notice. In the course of their home visiting enquiries are made and cases followed up if necessary.

2.—Child Welfare Clinics.

Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year :—

(i) by children under 1 year of age.....	4513
(ii) by children between 1 year and 5 years.....	752

Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year, and who on the date of their first attendance, were

(i) under 1 year of age.....	450
(ii) between 1 year and 5 years.....	28

Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year, were

(i) under 1 year of age.....	335
(ii) over 1 year of age.....	405

The percentage, which the number of children under 1 year who first attended at the Centres during the year, bears to the notified live births, is 77.

The Medical Officers held 1,188 infant consultations at the Centres during the year.

Arrangements exist for the supply of dried milk and cow's milk, etc., for infants and children and chocolate milk for expectant and nursing mothers, either free or at part cost in necessitous cases.

The following amounts were distributed during the year.

	<i>Free</i>	<i>Sold</i>
Cows Milk (pints).....	6000	
Dried Milk (1 lb. packets).....	6628½	5534½
Chocolate Milk (1 lb. packets).....	3024½	299½
Emulsion (Cod liver oil).....	759	426
Vitamen Malt (various).....	2691	1035
Horlick's Malted Milk.....	—	80
Haliverol.....	—	16

The Chapel Street branch clinic was opened on 14th December, 1936, and is situated at the Corner of Boundary Street and Chapel Street, above the grocery premises of the Leigh Friendly Co-operative Society Ltd.

There are three rooms, a waiting room, a room used for the weighing of infants and for dressing of minor ailments in school children, and a consulting room. The accommodation is spacious and has been admirably adapted for its purpose.

Consequent upon the opening of this new clinic and the transference there of many mothers and children who would otherwise have attended at Stone House, it was considered possible to transfer the Dental Clinic to Stone House.

This has been completed and the arrangement works extremely well.

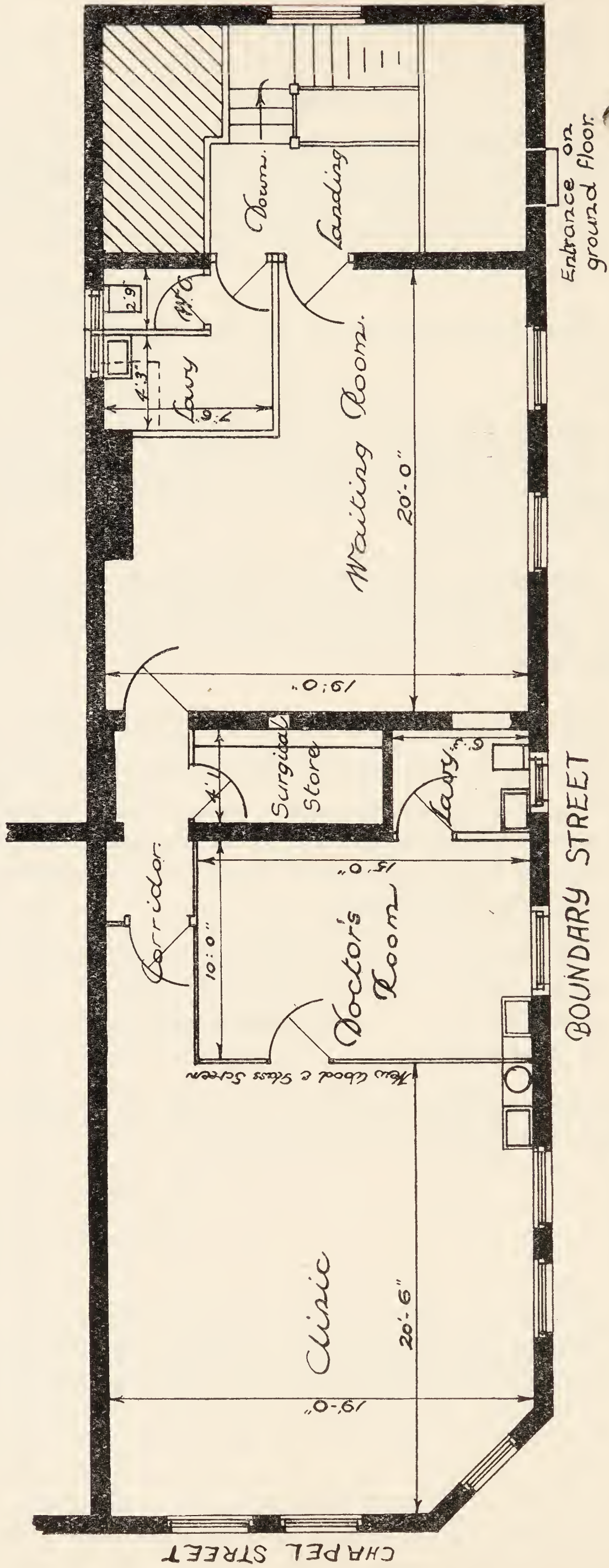
The area served by the new clinic is bounded by the London, Midland and Scottish Railway line from the Borough boundary on the north east to where it crosses the Leeds and Liverpool Canal ; from that point following the canal eastwards to Mather Lane bridge thence directly south to the Borough boundary.

The schools which are served by the new clinic are :—

Bedford C.E.	Bedford Methodist.
Butts C.E.	Butts Methodist.
St. Joseph's R.C.	Manchester Road Senior Council.

The Chapel Street Child Welfare Clinic is held on Thursday afternoons. Appended is a plan of the accommodation.

PLAN OF CHAPEL STREET BRANCH CLINIC



The Services of the school clinics are available for the use of pre-school children and the following table shows the number of pre-school children who were treated and the number of attendances at these clinics during 1936.

Treatment of Pre-school children at School Clinics.

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Number of individual children treated</i>	<i>Number of Attendances</i>
Minor Ailments.....	52	300
Operative (Tonsils and Adenoids).....	6	12
Eye.....	6	18
Artificial Sunlight.....	41	803
Ear, Nose and Throat.....	18	33
Dental.....	50	70
Orthopaedic.....	2	2
TOTAL.....	175	1238

The facilities granted by the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital for the treatment of school children suffering from squint, are also available for the orthoptic treatment of pre-school children, and 6 children under school age have been referred for treatment during 1936.



PART VIII

HEALTH EDUCATION.



1.—Posters.

Use is made of the four hoardings of the department (formerly those of the Empire Marketing Board) for the display of Health Posters. A variety of posters was displayed and changed monthly.

2.—Pamphlets.

Pamphlets on Rats and Mice Destruction were distributed during National Rat week. A new series of infant welfare pamphlets has been prepared, and these are being constantly distributed by the Health Nurses from the Welfare Centres.

3.—Lectures.

Lectures on Health Subjects have been delivered during the year by the Medical Officer of Health and the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

4.—Mothercraft Class.

A class in mothercraft, arranged as a joint venture under the auspices of the Maternity, Child Welfare and School Clinics Committee and the Education Committee has been recommended by me, and the suggestion adopted by the respective committees.

At the time of writing this report the class has already concluded its Session. It was held in the Central Clinic, Stone House, on Wednesday evenings, and there were 12 meetings of the Class.

The average attendance of women was 17.6.

Following an introductory lecture by myself, the Matron of the Maternity Home, Miss S. J. Storey spent two evenings in teaching prenatal care and preparation for confinement. Mrs. L. Birchall, Health Visitor, Lancashire County Council devoted three evenings to infant welfare and the care of the pre-school child, and one to Home Nursing and first aid. Dr. V. J. Woodward lectured on one evening on the Health of the School Child, and this was followed by a talk on Home Hygiene by Mr. Nicklin, the Senior Sanitary Inspector. The last three lectures dealt with food values, and the purchasing of food, and were followed by cookery demonstrations. They were held in the Twist Lane Domestic Centre and were conducted by a teacher of domestic science.

INDEX.

	<i>Page</i>
Acts, Private and Adoptive	37
Adulteration of Food	57
Ambulance arrangements....	23
Animals, Slaughter of	56
Ashpits and Ashbins	32
 Bakehouses....	 56
Baths, Swimming	34
Births	77
Birth Rate	12
Blindness, Prevention of	68
Books, Library	67
Bye-laws and regulations in force	38
 Canal Boats	 35
Cancer	68
Causes of Death	14
Centres for treatment	24
,, , Work of	88
Chapel Street Clinic	88
,, , Plan of	90
Child Welfare	87
Cleansing, Public	32
Clearance Orders	45
Clinics and Treatment Centres	24
Committee—Health	2
,, Maternity and Child Welfare	2
Closet accommodation	31
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	55
 Deaths, Causes of	 14
,, , Maternal	79
Death Rate....	12
Defects found, Sanitary	33
Demolition of houses	48
Diphtheria	63
Disinfection	67
Disinfestation	51
Domiciliary Midwifery	85
Drainage and Sewerage	31

INDEX—*Continued.*

Factory and Workshops	36
Food Adulteration....	57
,, and Drugs Acts	57
,, , Chemical and Bacteriological examination of	57
,, Condemned	56
,, , Distribution at Child Welfare Centres	88
,, , Inspection and supervision of	53
General Provision of Health Services	19
Health Education	93
Health Committee....	2
,, Nurses, Work of	87
,, Services	19
,, Staff	3, 22
Home Nursing	23
Hospitals	25
Houses, Building of	48
,, , Reconditioning of	48
Housing	41
Housing—Clearance Orders	45
,, Demolition	48
,, Individual Houses	46
,, Progress	47
,, Progress of demolition	48
Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding	44
Individual Houses	46
Infant Deaths—Age distribution	78
,, , Causes of	17, 78
,, , Rate	12
,, , Ward distribution	79
Infant Life Protection	88
Infectious Diseases, Notifications and deaths, etc.	63
,, , Age distribution	66
,, , Hospital	65
,, , Prevalence of, and control over	61
Inspection and Supervision of Food	53
Inspections, summary of	32
Laboratory arrangements	22
Library Books	67

INDEX—Continued.

Maternity and Child Welfare	....	....	....	....	....	....	75
Maternity, Child Welfare and School Clinics Committee	....	....					2
Maternity Home	....	....	....	....	....	....	79
„ „ —Prenatal and Postnatal Clinic	....	....					82
„ „ —Staff	....	....	....	....	....	3, 22	
Measurement for permitted number	....	....	....	....	....	....	50
Meat, Inspection of	....	....	....	....	....	....	55
Midwifery, Domiciliary	....	....	....	....	....	....	85
Milk supply	....	....	....	....	....	....	55
Mothercraft Class	....	....	....	....	....	....	95
Mortality—Maternal	....	....	....	....	....	17, 79	
„ „ , Infantile	....	....	....	....	....	16, 17, 78	
„ „ , Analysis of	....	....	....	....	....	....	15
Nuisances—Sanitary	....	....	....	....	....	....	33
Nursing in the Home	....	....	....	....	....	....	23
Nutrition	....	....	....	....	....	....	57
„ „ Table	....	....	....	....	....	....	59
Officers, Public Health Department	....	....	....	....	....	....	21
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	....	....	....	....	....	68
Orthopaedic Treatment	....	....	....	....	....	....	24
Orthoptic Treatment	....	....	....	....	....	....	91
Overcrowding—Housing Act, 1935	....	....	....	....	....	....	44
Permitted number, measurement for	....	....	....	....	....	....	50
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	....	64
Population	....	....	....	....	....	....	11
Prenatal and Postnatal Care	....	....	....	....	....	....	83
Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other diseases	....						61
Prevention of Blindness	....	....	....	....	....	....	68
Public Health Act, 1925—Section 62	....	....	....	....	....	....	71
Public Cleansing	....	....	....	....	....	....	32
Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia	....						87
Rats and Mice Destruction	....	....	....	....	....	....	35
Reconditioning of houses	....	....	....	....	....	....	48
Refuse removal	....	....	....	....	....	....	32
Regulations...	....	....	....	....	....	....	38
Rivers and Streams	....	....	....	....	....	....	31

INDEX—Continued.

[illegible]





